

EMERGENCY RESPONSE NETWORK

of the

INTERNATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN HUMAN RIGHTS

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IGLHRC Action Alert

NEW

ANTI-GAY ATTACKS IN BULGARIA: MASS PUBLIC ARRESTS AND BAR RAID

On the morning of July 9, 1996, the offices of the Flamingo Center, a legally registered publisher of gay and lesbian erotic magazines, were vandalized by police forces from the third district police station of Sofia, Bulgaria.

Uniformed police officers broke into the Tzar Simeon Street offices of the Flamingo Center, and confiscated all printed materials including the organizational database of 2,000 members, office equipment and assorted merchandise. Three Flamingo Center employees were arrested and met with crews from three television stations on arrival at the third district police station. The image of the first detainee removed from the police wagon was broadcast on the Central Evening News of all Bulgarian TV channels and published in local newspapers, accompanied by denigrating and defamatory commentary. All three arrested Flamingo Center employees were released after being held at the station for 10 hours.

As part of this recent growing wave of anti-gay harassment in Bulgaria, it is reported that on July 9, police forces also raided Comet, an erotic-video center on Vesletz Street in Sofia and seized all their video tapes. The national newspaper *24 Hours* also reports that on July 11, police forces executed mass arrests of gay men including foreign visitors at a gay beach near the town of Varna. It is further reported that on July 13, police officers raided At Kayo, a private gay club on Yuri Venelin Street in Sofia, resulting in a reduction in its hours of operation. The national *Standart* and *Trud* newspapers have also reported the kidnapping of a gay activist a month ago in the port town of Rouse.

While the scope and severity of these raids is unprecedented in Bulgaria, anti-gay sentiment is not. In the summer of 1995, the Bulgarian General Attorney Mr. Ivan Tatartchev prevented the broadcast of a commercial prepared for a national television station, stating that it contained "homosexual elements which endangered the national morality." The current police campaign of terror against gays and lesbians comes in the wake of a drastic increase in organized crime and an increasingly fragile police structure. This has resulted in the unofficial state policy of inciting confrontations between ethnic and social groups with the aim of deflecting public opinion from the pressing national crises of the floundering bank system, the ballooning inflation rate and the inaccessibility of such basic foodstuffs as bread.

We are deeply concerned by these strategic acts of state sanctioned police brutality against the Bulgarian gay movement. These recent acts are in violation of the Bulgarian Constitution and numerous international

covenants ratified by the state of Bulgaria. We are further deeply concerned about the well-being of Angel Bliznatchki, the only visible Bulgarian gay activist recognized by the authorities. We are calling on Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev to ensure that no more raids are carried out, and that steps be taken to thoroughly investigate those who authorized and participated in them, including Lieutenant-Colonel Sharankov and Examining-Magistrate Valentin Marinov of the third district police station of Sofia.

IGLHRC and the Flamingo Center are requesting that urgent letters of protest be sent to the following Bulgarian officials:

Mr. Zhelyu Zhelev
President
Republic of Bulgaria
1 Dondukov Street
1000 Sofia, Bulgaria
fax: +359-2-767-3226

Mr. Zhan Videnov
Prime Minister
Republic of Bulgaria
2 Dondukov Street
1000 Sofia, Bulgaria
fax: +359-2-767-3226

Mr. Blagovest Sendov
Chairman, National Assembly
Republic of Bulgaria
2 Narodno Sabranie Square
Sofia, Bulgaria

Mr. Ivan Tatartchev
General Attorney
Republic of Bulgaria
2 Alabin Street
Sofia, Bulgaria
fax: +359-2-80-1327

UPDATE

HIGH COURT RULING PERMITS GAYS AND LESBIANS IN ZIMBABWEAN BOOKFAIR

March 1996 Action Alert

On the morning of July 31, 1996, Judge Wilson Sandura of the Zimbabwean High Court overturned a government order prohibiting the Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ) from participating in the 1996 Zimbabwe International Bookfair (ZIBF) thus allowing the group to participate in this year's fair. This ruling comes in the wake of the latest government frenzy of anti-homosexual bigotry and harassment and on the heels of President Mugabe's expulsion of GALZ from last year's bookfair. The government immediately sought a Supreme Court injunction against this decision claiming that the GALZ exhibition would "likely be associated with a breach of peace, disorder and immoral behavior." On August 2, however, the Supreme Court upheld the High Court's rul-

ALSO INSIDE

Argentina
Turkey Germany
Poland Japan

ing, leaving GALZ to face the prospect of violence at the bookfair without any police protection.

GALZ members attended the bookfair on August 1, and while exhibiting no materials, engaged in discussions with the numerous people who gathered at their stand. On August 2, following the Supreme Court ruling, the GALZ booth was occupied by a hostile crowd led by public prosecutor Herbert Ushewokunze, and GALZ members avoided their stand until the following day. On August 3, GALZ had their booth relocated, in order to facilitate their swift escape in the event of an attack. GALZ members were later tipped off about impending violence, and were forced to vacate their stand. It is reported that a mob comprised mainly of University of Zimbabwe students then ransacked the GALZ stand, tore up and carried away literature, while the state police refused to intervene.

The Zimbabwe International Bookfair is the largest publishing showcase on the African continent, and drew up to 450 publishers from 40 countries last year. This year's five day fair opened its doors to traders on July 30 and closed on August 3. The intent of GALZ was to exhibit information on the intersections of human rights law and gay/lesbian rights in Zimbabwe, to publicize their counseling services, to distribute educational materials on HIV and AIDS, and to display *Sahwira: Being Gay and Lesbian in Zimbabwe*, a recently published anthology, at the bookfair.

On July 29, the Censorship Board and Ministry of Home Affairs had issued a notice of prohibition keeping GALZ from participating in the Book Fair, citing Section 17 (1) of the Censorship and Entertainments Control Act. Section 17 (1) prohibits "the public exhibition or intended exhibition of any publication which is likely to be associated with breaches of the peace, disorderly or immoral behavior...." In response to this prohibition, GALZ immediately made an urgent application for an order against the prohibition, in which they argued that the Censorship Board had no legal basis for censoring materials which it has not seen.

GALZ had initially been granted permission to participate in this year's bookfair by the ZIBF Trust, which then received tremendous pressure from the Zimbabwean government for allowing the gay group to participate. The ZIBF's decision to allow GALZ to participate marks a significant departure from its position last year, which enforced the government's ban of the group from the 1995 bookfair. The Executive Director of the bookfair trust, Ms. Trish Mbanga has stated their commitment to exercising democracy, and has been unwavering in her refusal to expel GALZ from this year's bookfair.

The government's attempts to ban GALZ can be traced directly to the actions of the Director of Information, Mr. Bornwell Chakaodza, the same minister who issued the banning order last year. Mr. Chakaodza, with the support of right wing groups such as Sangomo Munhumutapa stated that "gay and lesbian activism would not be tolerated in Zimbabwe." The right wing group's opposition to GALZ was so strong, that they threatened to "raze down the stands and go to jail" if the gay group's table was allowed at the bookfair.

It is reported that several church organizations have publicly supported the participation of GALZ in the bookfair, stating that the organization's literature on AIDS would greatly benefit Zimbabwean society. The Zimbabwean Human Rights Commission (Zimrights), Legal Resource Foundation and the Catholic Commission for Justice and

Peace in Zimbabwe have issued statements criticizing the government for having issued the banning order.

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) is outraged by this state sanctioned incitement of violence against the Zimbabwean gay and lesbian movement. These recent acts are absolutely unconscionable, and we are deeply concerned about the safety of the members of the Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ). We implore the Zimbabwean government to ensure police protection of all its citizens, including members of the Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ).

NEW

ARGENTINA MANDATES COMPULSORY HIV TESTING IN ARMED FORCES

Policies mandating HIV testing are gaining ground in Argentina. The government of Argentina has recently issued a decree calling for mandatory HIV testing of all current and future members of the armed forces. This policy began two years ago in an agreement reached between the Ministry of Health and the army in the province of Buenos Aires. With President Carlos Menem's recent decree, No. 906/95, the policy has begun to be implemented at the federal level not only in the army but in all security forces, including the Federal Police and Coast Guard. Sociedad de Integración Gay-Lésbica (SIGLA) reports that several provincial police forces have adopted similar policies, as have federal agencies (such as the Finance Ministry) and private corporations.

This decree is, in fact, contrary to both Argentina's Act 23798 which states that the fight against AIDS is of national interest, and more especially Article 2 of this Act which upholds the dignity of all persons and formally condemns any form of discrimination.

Implementation of this decree constitutes a violation of medical confidentiality, notably with regard to AIDS. As a result of this policy, it is reported that any government official will have access to the medical file of those HIV-positive persons who may be under their command.

Argentina is renegeing on its international commitments. At the December 1994 World Summit in Paris, Argentina signed a Declaration on AIDS in which it pledged that Argentina "ensures equal protection under the law for persons living with HIV/AIDS, with regard to access to health care, employment, education, travel, housing, and social welfare."

On a recent visit to France, President Menem was met with protests from numerous groups, including Aides Fédération Nationale, ACT UP Paris, Chrétiens et Sida, and David et Jonathan. IGLHRC joins with these groups and with the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) in supporting SIGLA's demand for the immediate abrogation of this decree and all policies resulting from it.

Write to President Carlos Menem stressing the following points:

1. Coercion to undergo HIV antibody testing without informed consent violates Article 5 of the Universal

Declaration of Human Rights which provides that "no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment."

2. It is documented that mandatory HIV testing does nothing to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS, but instead deflects crucial resources which would be better spent on educational and outreach programs.

3. An adequate public health response to the AIDS epidemic in Argentina includes state guarantees for the safety of persons with AIDS and HIV+ persons and not their social stigmatization.

4. As a country that is in the process of renewing its commitment to democracy, Argentina must reaffirm its commitment to human rights, a commitment that by definition includes the right of people living with HIV/AIDS to live without fear of persecution.

Send letters to:

President Carlos Menem
Casa de Gobierno
Balcarce 50
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Please send copies of your letters to IGLHRC, and to:

SIGLA
Parana 122
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Fax: +54-1-362-82-61

NEW

TURKEY'S TRANSVESTITE AND TRANSEXUAL COMMUNITY UNDER CONTINUED POLICE ATTACK

Reports from the Turkish gay group, Lambda Istanbul, state that Turkey's transsexual and transvestite community is facing vicious attacks from police in Istanbul, including torture while in police custody. The intimidation and violent actions of the police began prior to the United Nations Conference of Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in Istanbul in early June, and continues to this day. Many believe the actions may have begun as an effort to "clean-up" the city for foreign visitors.

On Ulker Street, home of many transvestites, the police are now a common sight. Police are reportedly using neighborhood informants to determine when transvestites have returned to their homes, at which point, axe-bearing policemen enter their home destroying doors and furniture. According to Lambda, transsexuals and transvestites taken from their homes are then brought into the police station where they are reportedly beaten with batons. In a street that normally houses 70 transvestites and transsexuals only seventeen continue to defy the police, in constant fear for their lives. The remainder have taken refuge in the homes of friends or are hostages in their own homes, refusing to turn on the lights or leave for fear of the police.

According to other sources in Turkey, police have allegedly burned down the homes of known transsexuals. Some transsexuals and transvestites who were taken into custody

have also reported that they were asked to select the instruments with which they were to be tortured. Those who refuse get beaten with all of them. The reported acts of cruelty against persons detained by the police are in clear violation of Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) which states "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel and degrading treatment or punishment."

Unable to find other work and abandoned by their families, many of the transvestite and transsexuals attempt to make a living as sex workers. Prostitution has been legalized in Turkey, but only women may obtain permits. While this could be used to prosecute some of these transsexuals, it is reported that no proof of illegal activity is required for the police to arrest transvestites and transsexuals. Simply living on Ulker Street has been making transsexuals and transvestites the victims of police action. No formal charges have been lodged against any of the transsexuals who have been arrested.

Despite repeated pleas from several victims and Turkey's Human Rights Association (IHD) for a thorough investigation to the public prosecutors office, no investigation into the police action is currently underway. Article 8 of the UDHR grants everyone the right to effective remedy by competent tribunal for acts violating the fundamentals rights granted by the law. However, none of these pleas have resulted in legal cases being brought against the alleged abusers.

Suleyman Ulusoy was recently re-appointed Commander of the Police for Istanbul-Beyoglu. Previous allegations of torture led Mr. Ulusoy to leave Istanbul two years ago. Unfortunately, upon his return, it seems he may be continuing his attack on transsexuals and transvestites. Police have reportedly threatened members of the transsexual community with torture if they do not leave the country.

Lambda Istanbul has denounced the attacks on the transgendered community. They are requesting that letters about these human rights violations emphasize the following points:

1. The harassment, intimidation and torture of members of the transsexual and transvestite community must stop immediately.
2. Serious investigation of present and past abuses against the transsexual and transvestite community needs to be undertaken immediately to determine the extent of human rights violations by police officers according to Articles 5 and 8 of the UDHR.
3. If the allegations against Mr. Ulusoy prove to be true, he should be relieved of his duties immediately.

Send letters to:

President Suleyman Demirel
President of the Republic
Cumhurbaskanligi Kosku
Cankaya, Ankara, TURKEY
FAX # 90-312-440-7212

Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan
Basbakanlik Bakanliklas
Ankara, TURKEY
FAX# 90-312-418-0476

Mr. Hayri Kazakenoglu
Governor of Istanbul
90-212-512-2086

SAMPLE LETTER: Bulgaria

Dear Sir:

I have been deeply concerned by the recent reports of state violence against the Bulgarian gay and lesbian movement. The mass arrests of gay men in Varna on July 11, and the recent raids of several private gay institutions contravene Article 26 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights ratified by Bulgaria, which "guarantees to all persons equal and effective protection against discrimination on any ground such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status" and which must be interpreted to include sexual orientation. The reported anti-homosexual attacks represent brazen violations of the most fundamental international human rights standards, as well as the democratic principles of the Bulgarian Constitution.

As a member of the Council of Europe, Bulgaria has the responsibility to uphold Article 1 of the European Social Charter, which requires that member states "protect effectively the right of the worker to earn his living in an occupation freely entered upon." The Flamingo Center is a legally registered distributor of erotic materials, and the only basis for the raid of their premises and their continued harassment is the fact that they cater to the needs of adults who engage in consensual same sex activities. Bulgaria, as a signatory party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is required as well to institute Article 6, which recognizes the right to work, including the right to the opportunity to gain ones living through freely chosen or accepted employment.

These anti-homosexual attacks in Bulgaria further contradict Resolution A2-0028/94 of the European Parliament of the European Community, which calls on member states to "abolish all legal provisions which criminalize and discriminate against sexual activities by persons of the same sex." As an associated member of the European Union, with a pending application for full membership, Bulgaria should actively demonstrate its compliance with the human rights standards of the European Community, including its protection of the rights of lesbians and gay men.

I respectfully request therefore, that you exert your greatest influence in securing the safety of Angel Bliznatchki of the Flamingo Center, and launch exhaustive and impartial investigations into the reported recent kidnapping of a gay activist from Rouse, as well as the recent raids against Bulgarian gay institutions and individuals.

Sincerely,

SAMPLE LETTER: Poland

Dear _____

I would like to express my support for the passage of Article 22, Paragraph 2 of the new Constitution of the Republic of Poland.

As you probably know, the Association of LAMBDA Groups issued a report in 1994 which documents cases of discrimination against Polish citizens who are gay men or lesbian women. This crucial report barely exposed the magnitude of the problem, as the researchers themselves feared grave repercussions and abuse as a result of their work. Polish gays and lesbians continue to lose their homes, educational and professional opportunities, and to risk physical attack simply for their honest expression of their sexual orientation, which happens to be different from that of the majority of Polish people.

Your retention of Article 22, Paragraph 2 will indicate that the Polish state stands firmly on the side of a minority group oppressed for expression of one of the most basic human needs; the need to give and receive love. Recognition of the right of consenting adults to such expression will place Poland in the Ranks of numerous countries and municipalities in the European Union which seek to eliminate discrimination against individuals on the basis of group membership or affiliation. I applaud the fact that with the retention of Article 22, Paragraph 2 of the new constitution, the Polish state will be continuing its national tradition of tolerance for which it is known and respected worldwide.

Sincerely,

NEW

GAY AND LESBIAN BAR RAIDED IN HALLE, GERMANY

In what may be the biggest police operation against gays and lesbians in the history of Germany's postwar Federal Republic, 160 police — some in full riot gear and with guns drawn — burst into the ZOOM disco in Halle in the state of Sachsen-Anhalt on the night of June 7, 1996. The masked police officers ordered everyone to lie on the floor, and those who did not immediately respond were beaten with batons and bar stools. The 70 or so patrons present were then handcuffed and were not allowed to talk or move for up to four hours. A number of guests were strip-searched, and all were subjected to threatening, insulting and violent behavior on the part of the police. People without identification were taken to nearby police stations. All the patrons of the disco were filmed by police video cameras.

The police in Halle are claiming they were attempting to arrest drug dealers, although they only found one ecstasy tablet. The raid took place the day before the first Christopher Street Day (Gay and Lesbian Pride) Demonstration in the state of Sachsen-Anhalt. Local gay and lesbian groups are regarding the police operation as a deliberate attempt to intimidate and suppress the fledgling gay and lesbian movement in the state. Many activists are concerned that the video footage of the guests will be used to create so-called "pink lists" - police files of known gays and lesbians.

In discussions at the Landtag (regional government) of Sachsen-Anhalt, both the Gruenen Partei (The Green Party) and the PDS (Partei des demokratischen Sozialismus) which is the new name of the former SED, the leading party in the former DDR (German Democratic Republic), have demanded a speedy, and thorough investigation of the case, and a public apology to the victims by the Minister of Interior, Herr Manfred Puechel who steadfastly refuses to admit any wrongdoing. Unfortunately, the SPD (Social Democratic Party) and CDU (Christian Democratic Union) controlled Landtag agreed to the investigation but refused to have the minister apologize to the victims of the raid, despite the fact that the SPD advocates equality for gays and lesbians in its platform.

Dr. Manfred Puechel, Minister of the Interior of Sachsen-Anhalt in Germany, has stated that the police raid against the gay bar ZOOM in Halle was directed against drug criminality and not against homosexuals. He also stated that minority rights is an important issue to him. When it comes to the criticism of the violence used by police officers involved in the raid, Dr. Puechel wrote that an investigation underway, but that no conclusion has yet been made. The public will, however, be informed as soon as the investigation has been completed. Mr. Puechel also assured that the videos and written information regarding

the guests at ZOOM will be dealt with according to the laws regulating such material, and that the material will not be used for so called "pink lists."

Local gay and lesbian activist in Halle have asked that letters protesting this gross injustice should emphasize the following points:

1. An apology on the part of the police to the patrons of the disco is still necessary despite Dr. Puechel claims to the contrary.
2. The full investigation into the events must proceed and with a appropriate legal consequences for those found responsible for this police action.

Letters can be mailed or faxed to:

Dr. Manfred Puechel
Interior Minister of the State of Sachsen-Anhalt
Halberstadter Strasse 2
39112 Magdeburg, GERMANY
FAX # 011-03-91506701

UPDATE

POLAND DEBATES DRAFT CONSTITUTION INCLUSIVE OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION

January 1996 Action Alert

The Parliament of Poland is set to debate its new permanent constitution this September. The draft constitution currently includes a provision prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in its proposed human rights clause (Article 22, Paragraph 2). The human rights clause, proposed on April 11, 1995, states that "No one can be discriminated against because of their sex, race, national or ethnic background, health, physical or mental disability, social background, place of birth, sexual orientation, language spoken, religious faith or lack thereof, opinions, material status or for any other reason."

The Constitutional Committee is expected to complete its draft by the end of the summer. While sexual orientation

is currently retained in the Human Rights clause, Lambda, the national Polish gay and lesbian organization fears that there will be a strong attempt to remove it during the Polish National Assembly's debate in September. The draft constitution was the subject of heated public debates when it was proposed early last year. The Catholic Church has strongly opposed the clause, and is engaged in a negotiation with President Aleksander Kwaniewski, which may cause the removal of sexual orientation from the clause.

If this clause is retained in its entirety, Poland will stand as only the second country in the world after South Africa to constitutionally protect its gay and lesbian citizens from discrimination. Lambda issued a report in late 1994,

YOUR LETTERS CAN DO DOUBLE DUTY

Please send copies of your letters to IGLHRC so that we can forward them to local activists to use in lobbying their governments.

which detailed cases of discrimination against gays and lesbians. This report, along with Lambda's lobbying efforts in the past two years for non-discrimination legislation which protects gay men lesbians and bisexuals, was instrumental in demonstrating to members of the Constitutional Committee the need for such a provision.

While it is reported that a few Polish officials have supported full retention of the clause, this has been purely on an ad-hoc basis, and Polish lesbians and gays continue to be expelled from their housing, fired from their jobs, and denied access to the benefits of registered partnerships. Letters sent to the "Speaker of the House" and the "Speaker of the Senate" are expected to pass directly to the Chairman of the Constitutional Committee. Lambda urges your swift action now in the form of urgent letters to these key parliamentarians in support of the proposed human rights clause.

Write to:

Prezydent Aleksander Kwasniewski R.P.
ul. Wiejska 10
00-902 Warszawa, Poland
fax: +48-22-695-12-54

Jozef Zych
Marszalek Sejmu R.P.
(Speaker of the House)
ul. Wiejska 4/6/8
00-902 Warszawa, Poland
fax: +48-22-692-22-13

Adam Struznik
Marszalek Senatu R.P.
(Speaker of the Senate)
ul. Wiejska 4/6/8
00-902 Warszawa, Poland
fax: +48-22-694-14-39

UPDATE

CITY OF TOKYO ATTEMPTS TO JUSTIFY DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GAYS & LESBIANS IN ONGOING COURT CASE

On May 16 at Tokyo's High Court, the City of Tokyo submitted a further piece of evidence in the "Fuchu Siene no Ie" case to support its policy barring homosexuals from city-run youth hostels despite a District Court ruling declaring such discrimination illegal. The case was originally brought by the Japan Association for the Lesbian and Gay Movement (OCCUR) in 1991 after the Tokyo Board of Education ruled that homosexuals would no longer be allowed to use the city's youth hostels. In the latest development, Shigeo Ono, Director of the Japanese National Council of Youth Organizations, issued a court brief that while recognizing he had not conducted any research on the topic of homosexuality, went on to argue that mainstream youth groups would be unable to use a facility also being used by homosexuals. Homosexuals would introduce a sexual tension into the atmosphere distracting the other youth, he claimed. Tokyo's strategy is to suggest that

people's anxiety about homosexuality, even if it has no basis in fact, is sufficient to justify the exclusion of homosexuals from the City's youth hostels.

On July 4, 1996 more than one hundred people were in attendance as Akitoshi Yanagihashi, a member of OCCUR and one of the official plaintiffs in the case, testified that OCCUR had used many other public youth hostels in other prefectures since the 1990 incident with no mishaps. Attorney's representing the city of Tokyo will cross examine Yanagihashi at the next hearing scheduled for early September. Throughout this court case OCCUR has benefited from the generous support of the international gay lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community. Letters of protest to the City of Tokyo are an extremely effective means of influencing the court's decision. OCCUR would be very grateful for further letters from individuals and organizations stressing the following points.

1. The City of Tokyo must withdraw its appeal immediately and abandon its discriminatory policies toward homosexuals. Only in this way can it begin to function as an administration that takes the rights of all its citizens seriously, including those of homosexuals.

2. (This point should be made in letters to the City of Tokyo) Restoring the rights of homosexuals to use these public facilities would be an important means of realizing Tokyo Prefectural Governor AOSHIMA Yukio's stated commitment to "Government for the People" (Shimin'ha). For the City government it would be an important step towards regaining the confidence of the citizens of Tokyo.

3. Tokyo's policy is in clear opposition to the world-wide trend of recognizing the human rights of homosexuals. The City of Tokyo has claimed that it is merely applying the "separate sexes, separate rooms rule" to homosexuals. But this application results in the de-facto barring of homosexuals from the facility all together. As such, this is clearly an instance of anti-gay discrimination.

4. It is the responsibility of the authorities to take steps to educate the guests and their parents by providing accurate, unbiased information about homosexuality.

Send letters to:

Mr. AOSHIMA Yukio
Governor of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government
Tokyo Metropolitan Government
Nishi-shinjuku 2-8-1, Shinjuku-ku Tokyo 160 JAPAN

Mr. ISHIKAWA Tadao
The Chairman of the Tokyo Board of Education
Tokyo Metropolitan Government
Nishi-shinjuku 2-8-1, Shinjuku Tokyo 160 Japan

Please send copies of all letters, as well as comments or inquiries to:

Japan Association for the Lesbian and Gay Movement (OCCUR) #201, 4-43-4,
Honcho, Nakano-ku
Tokyo 164 JAPAN
FAX: 81-3-3-3229-7880
email: occur@kt.rim.or.jp

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Keep IGLHRC informed
of human rights violations
in your area.

WE NEED YOUR HELP - JOIN THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE NETWORK

The International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) documents, monitors, and mobilizes response to human rights violations against gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, and people with HIV/AIDS worldwide. **Please sign up** to receive action alerts on a regular basis (via email or postal service) and become part of an international campaign to make a difference in the lives of sexual minorities all over the world. To receive by mail, please fill out the coupon below and return it to:

IGLHRC
1360 Mission Street, Suite 200
San Francisco, CA 94103 U.S.A.
+1-415-255-8680 telephone
+1-415-255-8662 fax

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Card # _____ Exp.date _____ Signature _____

IGLHRC
1360 Mission Street, Suite 200
San Francisco, CA 94103 U.S.A.



Herland Sister Resources
2312 N.W. 39th
Oklahoma City OK 73112